Attorney Docket: 501038.20539 (20076.69)

3739

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michael R. Treat et al. : Art Group:

Serial No.: 09/839,988 : Examiner: Lee S. Cohen

Filing Date: April 20, 2001 : Confirmation No.: 3108

For: ELECTROTHERMAL DEVICE FOR COAGULATING,

SEALING AND CUTTING TISSUE DURING SURGERY

May 14, 2004

Mail Stop: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, A 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

The enclosed Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 197 and 1.98, and it is requested that the information set forth in this statement and in the listed documents be considered during the pendency of the above-identified application, and any other application relying on the filing date of the above-identified application or cross-referencing it as a related application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 forms PTO-1449 are attached hereto. Copies of the documents cited are enclosed.

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The filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicants reserve the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

No fee is believed due. However, any fee necessary for entry of this paper should be charged to **Deposit Account No. 50-1529**.

Respectfully submitted

May 14, 2004

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PTO/SB/08A (04-03)

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Sheet

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known					
Application Number	09/839,988				
Filing Date	April 20, 2001				
First Named Inventor	Michael R. Treat				
Art Unit	3739				
Examiner Name	Lee S. Cohen				
Attorney Docket Number	501038 20539 (20076 69)				

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Examiner Cite No.1 Document Number **Publication Date** Name of Patentee or Pages, Columns, Lines, Where MM-DD-YYYY Applicant of Cited Document Relevant Passages or Relevant Initials* Figures Appear Number-Kind Code² (# known) ^{US-} 1,422,826 07-18-1922 F.O. Brown ^{US-} 3,980,861 A. Fukunaga 09-14-1976 US- 6.626.901 09-13-2003 M. Treat US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-ŪS-US-

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ "Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	Τ°			
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Examiner			Date	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Nind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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